

## **HB6391 AN ACT CONCERNING INCREASING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES.**

To the Honorable Legislators of Connecticut and those serving on the Planning & Development Committee;

### **I URGE YOU TO OPPOSE THIS BILL:**

This bill proposes increasing the maximum threshold of penalties that municipalities can charge with no regulation as to when or how those penalties may be applied.

This bill grossly inflates fines for infractions that may be imposed by municipalities and;

1. Does not regulate size of the relative to the type of infraction.
2. There are already large fines charged to property owners where it cannot be determined who is responsible for the infraction which is terribly unfair. For example;
  - a. In multi-family buildings, trash, blight or recyclables violations may result in increasingly more expensive fines to the owner.
  - b. In most cases, the owner cannot adequately prove which tenant is responsible therefore, the fine cannot be assigned a tenant and the owner foots the bill.
  - c. This can (and has) led to malicious acts as retaliation against the housing provider resulting excessive and unfair charges to property owners.

Fines when imposed should be regulated according to the severity of the infraction and need to be levied against the violator, not the property owner.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose this bill.

Respectfully,

Paul Januszewski, Housing Provider